### Draba longipes Raup

long-stalked draba Brassicaceae (Mustard Family)

Status: State Threatened

Rank: G4S1

**General Description:** Adapted from Douglas et al. (1998): A loosely tufted perennial herb from a taproot. At the base, the stems lie close to the ground without rooting adventitiously. The stems are 2\% to 13\% in. (7 to 35 cm) tall, hairy with branched or starlike hairs, and sometimes with a few long, simple hairs near the base. The basal leaves are loosely tufted, oblanceolate,  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 cm) long,  $\frac{1}{16}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (2 to 12 mm) wide, hairy with 4-rayed, starlike hairs, occasionally mixed with 5-rayed or crosslike hairs, hairy-fringed, and entire to sometimes obscurely toothed. There are 0 to 3 lanceolate stem leaves. The flowers are borne in 2 to 15 flowered racemes. The petals are white, cream or yellow, and  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. (3 to 5 mm) long. The sepals are  $\frac{1}{16}$  to  $\frac{1}{8}$  in. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  to 2½ mm) long and sparsely soft-hairy. The fruits are hairless (or nearly so) lanceolate silicles that are ½ to ½ in. (6 to 12 mm) long and 1/32 to 1/8 in. (1 to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  mm) wide. The hairy fruiting stalks are 1/8 to  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. (3 to 15 mm) long and the lowest fruiting stalks are often about the same length as to twice the length of the silicles. The styles are 1/64 to 1/32 in. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 mm) long.

**Identification Tips:** *Draba longipes* is most closely related to *D. porsildii* and *D. macounii*. These species can be distinguished by the nature of their pedicels in fruit and basal leaves. The pedicels of *D. longipes* are usually about the same to twice the length of the silicles and its basal leaves are loosely tufted. The lowest stalks of *D. porsildii* and *D. macounii* are shorter than the silicles and the basal leaves are compacted.

Phenology: Identifiable in July.

Range: This species is found from northern British Columbia to northern Alaska, the Yukon Territory, and western Northwest Territories and east to Alberta. In Washington, there is one known population in Clallam County.

**Habitat:** *Draba longipes* grows in moist meadows and on rocky slopes and cliffs in subalpine and alpine zones. It can be found below snowbeds in mountains and on tundra. Effectively there are no associated species except for lancepod draba (*Draba lonchocarpa*). In Washington, long-stalked draba is found at an elevation of 6200 ft (1890 m).

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Known distribution of *Draba longipes* in Washington



- Current (1980+)
- O Historic (older than 1980)

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**Photo by Oregon State University** 

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**Ecology:** This species grows in rock rubble and gravel in the boreal zone.

**State Status Comments:** Known from one occurrence in Olympic National Park in Clallam County. This species is disjunct in Washington and the one known population is 600 miles from its recognized range in the Canadian Rockies, Alaska, and the Yukon.

**Inventory Needs:** Rocky slopes and cliffs in Clallam County should be systematically surveyed for additional populations.

**Threats and Management Concerns:** Definite threats have not been identified for this species. However, the small range of this taxon in Washington and the small number of known occurrences are major concerns.

#### References:

Douglas, G.W., G.B. Straley, D. Meidinger, and J. Pojar. 1998. Illustrated Flora of British Columbia vol. 2: Dicotyledons (Balsaminaceae Through Cuscutaceae). Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, Victoria, British Columbia. 401 pp.

Flora ID Northwest. 2001. *Plants of Washington: interactive keys and color photos*. Pendleton, OR. CD-Rom.